

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 52**

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**Introduced by Assembly Members Block and Lara**  
**(Coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Chesbro, Conway,**  
**Cook, Nielsen, and Swanson)**  
**(Coauthor: Senator Evans)**

April 25, 2011

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 52—Relative to the California State University system.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 52, as introduced, Block. California State University: 50th anniversary.

This measure would state the Legislature’s support of the California State University system on the occasion of its 50th anniversary and commends the invaluable contributions it has made to the intellectual and social growth of its students, and extends best wishes for its continued success in the future.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, The California State University system will  
2 celebrate its 50th anniversary during 2010 and 2011, and, upon  
3 this occasion, it is deserving of special public commendations; and  
4 WHEREAS, The California State Colleges was established as  
5 a system by the Donahoe Higher Education Act of 1960, and in  
6 1972, the system became known as the California State University  
7 and Colleges; and  
8 WHEREAS, In 1982, the system became the California State  
9 University (CSU), and today, the 23 campuses of the CSU include

comprehensive and polytechnic universities and, since July 1995, the California Maritime Academy, a specialized campus; and

WHEREAS, The system's oldest campus, San Jose State University, was founded in 1857 and became the first institution of public higher education in California, and today, the CSU is the nation's largest and most diverse university system, with 23 campuses and seven off-campus centers, nearly 433,000 students, and 44,000 faculty and staff; and

WHEREAS, The CSU draws its students from the top third of California's high school graduates, many of whom live within the local service area of the campus, and is the state's primary undergraduate teaching institution; and

WHEREAS, Each CSU campus—California State University, Bakersfield; California State University, Channel Islands (the system's newest campus); California State University, Chico; California State University, Dominguez Hills; California State University, East Bay; California State University, Fresno; California State University, Fullerton; Humboldt State University; California State University, Long Beach; California State University, Los Angeles; California Maritime Academy; California State University, Monterey Bay; California State University, Northridge; California State Polytechnic University, Pomona; California State University, Sacramento; California State University, San Bernardino; San Diego State University; San Francisco State University; San Jose State University; California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo; California State University, San Marcos; Sonoma State University; and California State University, Stanislaus—has its own identity, but all share the same mission of providing high-quality, affordable higher education to meet the changing workforce needs of California; and

WHEREAS, With 90,000 annual graduates, the CSU is California's greatest producer of baccalaureate degrees and drives California's economy in information technology, life sciences, agriculture, business, education, international trade, public administration, hospitality, engineering, entertainment, and multimedia industries; and

WHEREAS, The CSU reaches out to California's growing, underserved communities, granting more undergraduate degrees to California's Latino, African American, and Native American

1 students than any other state public university system and offers  
2 affordable opportunities to pursue and attain a college degree; and

3 WHEREAS, The CSU is noted for pioneering outreach efforts,  
4 including the creation of the Early Assessment Program (which  
5 enables 11th grade students to assess their college readiness in  
6 English and math) and the Educational Opportunity Program (an  
7 access and retention program that supports low-income,  
8 educationally disadvantaged students, many of whom are  
9 first-generation college students); and

10 WHEREAS, The CSU distributes millions of “How to Get to  
11 College” posters in multiple languages, hosting Super Sunday  
12 events at churches throughout the state as part of its African  
13 American initiative; partners with the Parent Institute for Quality  
14 Education, which helps strengthen parent involvement in  
15 elementary and middle school students’ education; and actively  
16 engages in the state’s Troops to College efforts on behalf of  
17 veterans; and

18 WHEREAS, The CSU offers more than 1,800 baccalaureate and  
19 masters degree programs in some 240 subject areas, as well as  
20 teaching credential programs and its own independent education  
21 doctorate program, and since 1961, the CSU has awarded nearly  
22 2,500,000 baccalaureate, masters, and joint doctoral degrees; and

23 WHEREAS, CSU faculty members are renowned for their  
24 teaching skills, as well as their significant contributions to research,  
25 and CSU staff and administrators provide the vital infrastructure  
26 to fulfill the CSU mission and, together, faculty and staff have  
27 made the CSU a leader in high-quality, accessible, student-focused  
28 higher education; and

29 WHEREAS, CSU students participate in 32,000,000 hours of  
30 community service annually at more than 3,560 community sites,  
31 including tutoring children and adults in English as a second  
32 language, working in hospitals and community health clinics,  
33 teaching computer literacy, cleaning up rivers and beaches, serving  
34 meals to the homeless, and building houses; and

35 WHEREAS, The CSU returns \$4.41 for every \$1 the state  
36 invests and sustains more than 200,000 jobs in the state,  
37 CSU-related expenditures create \$13,600,000,000 in economic  
38 activity, CSU students represent one in 10 members of California’s  
39 workforce and the majority of the state’s teachers, and the CSU  
40 has more than 2,000,000 alumni; and

1 WHEREAS, The Chancellor and the Trustees of the CSU have  
2 led the CSU during extremely difficult economic times that have  
3 caused the CSU to cut admission rates and raise costs, as they have  
4 launched initiatives to increase the system's graduation rates and  
5 help underrepresented students complete college; and

6 WHEREAS, Dedicated to helping foster improvement in the  
7 educational, economic, and cultural life in California, the CSU is  
8 developing not only college graduates, but responsible citizens  
9 and leaders for California and the nation; now, therefore, be it

10 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
11 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature takes great pride in  
12 congratulating the California State University system on the  
13 occasion of its 50th anniversary, commends the invaluable  
14 contributions it has made to the intellectual and social growth of  
15 its students, and extends best wishes for its continued success in  
16 the future; and be it further

17 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
18 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.